

HOUSE BILL 652

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2003 Regular Session
3r1657
CF 3r2672

By: ~~Delegate D. Davis~~ Delegates D. Davis, Burns, Conroy, Doory, Feldman, Fulton, Glassman, Harrison, Impallaria, Jameson, Kirk, Krebs, Krysiak, Love, McHale, Miller, Minnick, Moe, Parrott, Taylor, Trueschler, Vaughn, Walkup, and Wood

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2003
Assigned to: Economic Matters

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 18, 2003

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Unemployment Insurance Funding Task Force**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing an Unemployment Insurance Funding Task Force;
4 providing for the membership and duties of the Task Force; providing for the
5 appointment of a chairperson of the Task Force; providing for staffing of the
6 Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain
7 compensation; authorizing a member of the Task Force to receive
8 reimbursement for certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to report to the
9 Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for
10 the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the establishment of an
11 Unemployment Insurance Funding Task Force.

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That:

14 (a) There is an Unemployment Insurance Funding Task Force to study
15 taxation and charging for purposes of funding the Unemployment Insurance Trust
16 Fund.

17 (b) The Task Force shall consist of the following 10 members:

18 (1) two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate;

19 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
20 the House;

1 (3) the Secretary of the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation,
2 or the Secretary's designee;

3 (4) the Secretary of the Department of Business and Economic
4 Development, or the Secretary's designee;

5 (5) a representative of the Maryland Retailers Association;

6 (6) a member of the general public;

7 (7) a representative of union labor; and

8 (8) a representative of the Maryland Chamber of Commerce.

9 (c) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall appoint
10 the member of the general public, and shall jointly designate the chairperson from
11 among the members of the Task Force.

12 (d) The Task Force shall examine:

13 (1) the fairness of the existing charging and taxation system under
14 current Maryland Unemployment Insurance law, taking into consideration the
15 impact on small, medium, and large employers across a variety of industries;

16 (2) the need for altering the current system of charging and taxation in
17 order to maintain the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund at a level sufficient to
18 ensure that benefits will be paid from the Fund; and

19 (3) the impact of changes in the national and State economies and their
20 relationship to changes in the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund.

21 (e) The Task Force shall make specific recommendations, including
22 developing draft legislation, on what steps might be taken to ensure that payments
23 into the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund remain adequate and equitable for
24 both employees and employers.

25 (f) The Department of Legislative Services, with assistance from the
26 Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, shall provide staffing for the Task
27 Force.

28 (g) A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation for serving on
29 the Task Force, but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
30 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

31 (h) On or before December 1, 2003, the Task Force shall report its findings and
32 recommendations to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government
33 Article, to the General Assembly.

34 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
35 June 1, 2003. It shall remain effective for a period of 7 months and, at the end of

1 December 31, 2003, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act
2 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.